



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph at page 9, lines 26-31 is amended as follows:

Referring to FIGURE 1, a partially cutaway view of a cutting device 10 is shown. Cutting device 10 has a housing 12 which may contain the controller [(not shown)] 50 and a sheet-receiving surface 16. Cutting device 10, which is shown with a sheet 40 positioned on sheet-receiving surface 16, is also known as a flatbed plotter or cutter in the art, and may be a Zund plotter, manufactured by Zund System Technik HG, or a Wild plotter, to give two examples.

The following line is inserted at page 15, line 2:

The invention claimed is:

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

1. (amended) In a method for cutting at least one graphics area from a sheet of material bearing a combination of such graphics area(s) and a plurality of registration marks in predetermined positions with respect to the graphics area(s), such combination being in a predetermined approximate position and orientation with respect to a set of reference features of the sheet of material, the method including (a) placing the sheet of material on a sheet-receiving surface, (b) sensing [the] precise positions of the marks with a main sensor, and (c) cutting the graphics area(s) from the sheet of material in response to such precise positions, the improvement comprising:

- automatically determining whether the reference features are in an expected coordinate region on the sheet-receiving surface;
- if the reference features of the sheet of material are not in the expected coordinate region, automatically determining the coordinate region of the reference features on the sheet-receiving surface;
- sensing [the] metrics of the reference features to determine [the] a position and orientation of the sheet of material; and
- inferring therefrom the approximate positions of the registration marks.

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